

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 RSR-01 /139 W

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R 111738 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9146

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

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E. O. 11652: DECONTROL FOLLOWING APRIL 30, 1974

TAGS: EAGR, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: CAP FOR SOYBEANS

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 1974; B. PARIS 23061 OF DECEMBER 1, 1972;

C. PARIS 20678 OF OCTOBER 30, 1972

1. DURING APRIL 11 CONVERSATION WITH CHIEF OF EC AFFAIRS, DREE, MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE, WE ASKED ABOUT RECENT PRESS REPORTS THAT FRENCH AGMIN CHIRAC HAD PROPOSED DURING EC COUNCIL DEBATE ON CAP PRICES THAT SOY BEANS BE INCLUDED UNDER EXISTING CAP FOR OIL SEEDS. (WE DID NOT REFER TO REPORT RECEIVED BY USEC THAT CHIRAC MADE FORMAL PROPOSAL ALONG THESE LINES.)

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2. DREE OFFICIAL REPLIED THAT SUCH A MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURAL PROPOSAL IS AGAIN UNDER STUDY WITHIN GOF, BUT HE STRESSED THAT GOF HAS NOT MADE ANY FORMAL APPROACH ON THIS QUESTION TO EC. DREE OFFICIALS SAID THAT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CONTINUES TO ARGUE THAT FRANCE MUST LESSEN ITS DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTS AS A SOURCE OF VEGETABLE PROTEIN AND MAINTAINS THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS SYSTEM WOULD PERMIT AT LEAST LIMITED FRENCH SOY BEAN PRODUCTION. DREE OFFICIAL SAID HE COULD NOT PREDICT HOW GOF WOULD DECIDE ON THIS QUESTION AT INTERMINISTERIAL LEVEL. HE SAID THAT HIS AGENCY CONTINUES TO OPPOSE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE PROPOSAL. HE SAID THAT DREE EXPERTS FEAR THAT ANY SUCH DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS PROGRAM WOULD BECOME EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE. MOREOVER, DREE AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS RECOGNIZE THAT ANY EC MOVE WHICH APPEARED TO THREATEN U. S. SOY BEAN EXPORTS WOULD PROVOKE STRONG U. S. REACTION.

COMMENT: DREE OFFICIAL'S ASSURANCE THAT GOF HAS NOT YET REACHED INTERMINISTERIAL DECISION ON QUESTION OF SOY BEAN CAP APPEARS SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH CHIRAC'S REPORTED REQUEST IN LUXEMBOURG, ALTHOUGH FRENCH PRESS VERSION OF CHIRAC'S REMARKS INDICATE THAT THEY WERE MORE IN NATURE OF SUGGESTION THAN FORMAL PROPOSAL. IN ANY CASE, ASSUMING DREE REPORT IS ACCURATE, IT APPEARS THAT CHIRAC WAS EXPRESSING VIEW OF HIS MINISTRY RATHER THAN MAKING OFFICIAL GOF PROPOSAL.

IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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